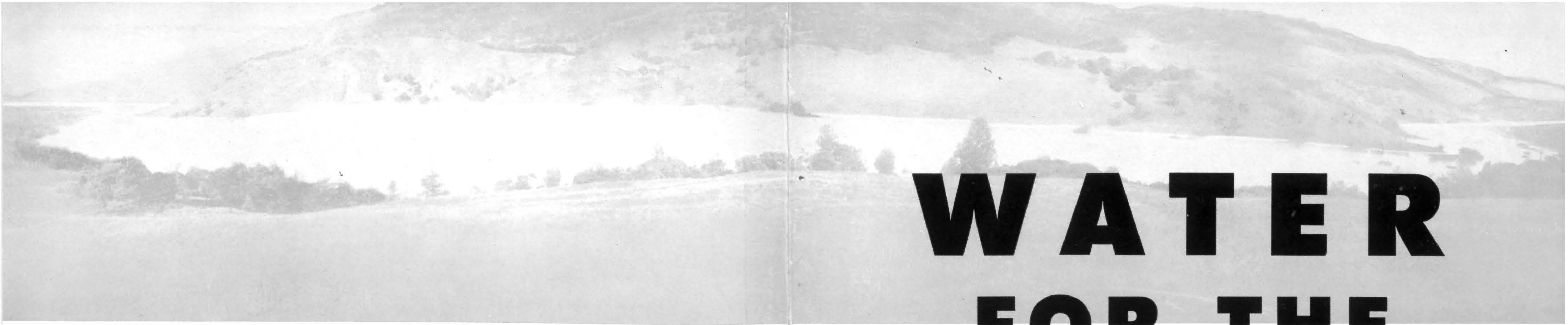

LEROY ANDERSON RESERVOIR

1955 - in
Coyote dam

WATER FOR THE VALLEY

**A Quarter-Century
Record of the
Santa Clara Valley
Water Conservation
District**

1929 - 1954

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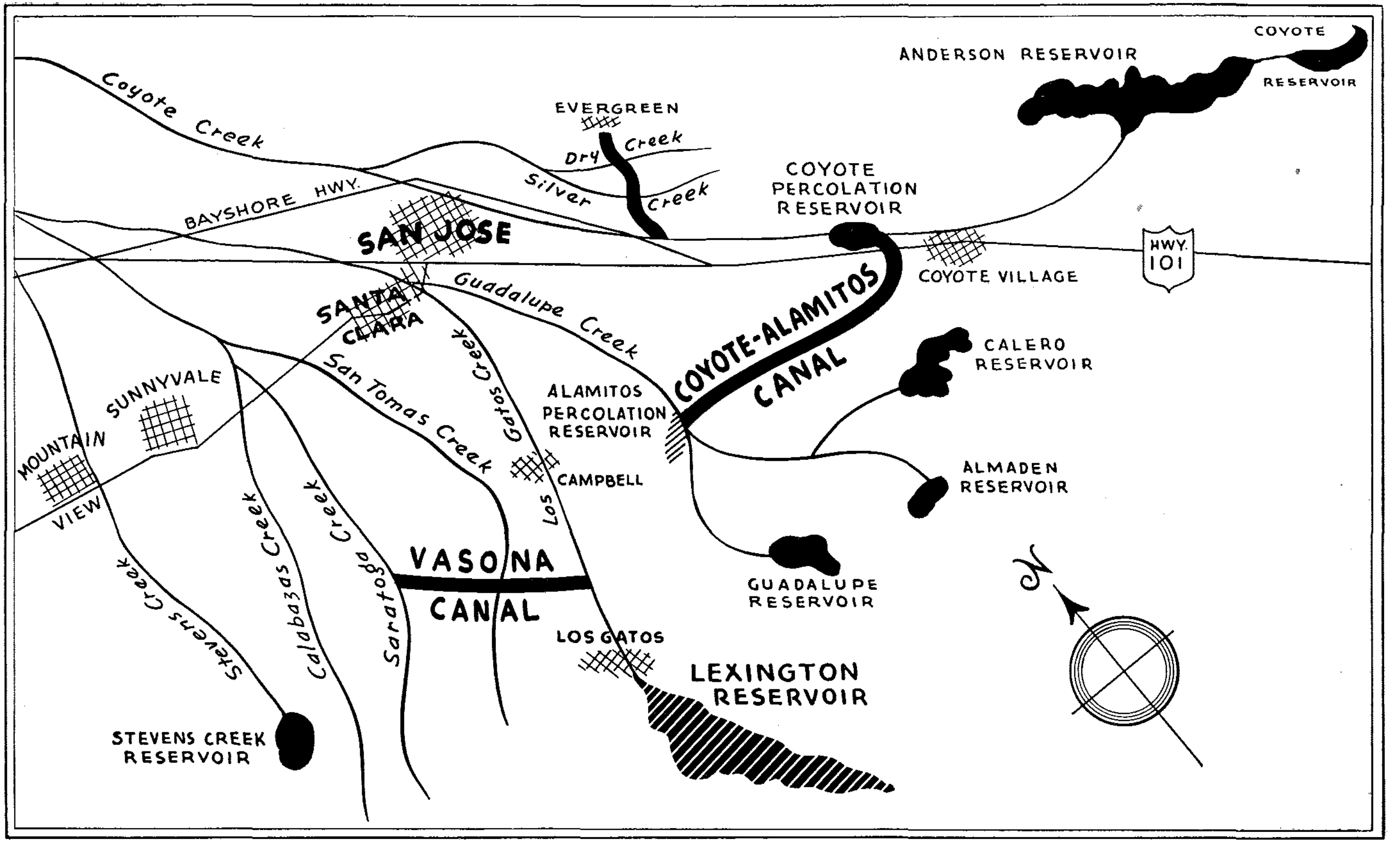

This map shows the approximate location of the District's major conservation works

WATER FOR THE VALLEY

A QUARTER-CENTURY RECORD
of the
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1929–1954

"Water is the number 1 problem of Santa Clara Valley." So stated Governor (now Chief Justice) Warren at the dedication of the Leroy Anderson Dam on April 25, 1951.

The reason for this critical problem is the impact of two conditions—a semi-arid region, and a phenomenal increase in population. Appended is a chart showing the rainfall in San Jose during the last century, indicating our average annual rainfall is only 14.16 inches.

The history of our Valley shows the rising demand for water, as population increases.

We have had four economic eras or economies here in Santa Clara Valley:

1. The era of hides and tallow.
2. The era of grain farming.
3. The era of fruit production.
4. The present era of industry.

Hides and Tallow

In the Spanish and Mexican periods practically the sole economic activity was the production of hides and tallow.

This is well told in Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast."

In the heyday of the Mission of Santa Clara the plain was literally covered with cattle. In 1834 the Mission owned 74,280 cattle and 82,540 sheep.

Some idea of the number of cattle in this district in these early days may be had from the fact that one ranch owner, Joaquin Bernal, who occupied the Santa Teresa Rancho about 8 miles south of San Jose, branded 5,000 head of calves a year.

Hay and Grain

With the discovery of gold and the influx of Americans, the land was put to more productive use. Practically the whole Valley was devoted to the raising of grain. There were 10 flour mills scattered from Alviso to Gilroy.

In fact, the first successful combined harvester was operated in Santa Clara

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
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Valley just 100 years ago, in 1854, drawn by 20 head of horses, stretched out with one driver at the head of each span.

As late as the beginning of the present century, a threshing machine operated on the land at the site now occupied by the home of Mr. John Crummey on Park Avenue.

Neither the raising of cattle nor the fields of grain required water for irrigation—they depended solely on dry farming.

Fruit Industry

While Pierre Pellier as early as 1856 discovered the aptitude of the soil of this Valley for the raising of French prunes, it wasn't until the '70s and the '80s, when the dried prune became popular, that there was heavy planting of this type of orchard. In the meantime, the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, made possible the shipping of fruit to the East. This gave a great impetus to the horticultural industry. The acreage planted to fruit and nuts increased phenomenally, from a total of approximately 20,000 acres in the late '80s to a maximum for Santa Clara Valley of 110,000 acres in fruit and nuts in 1930. Then it was that Santa Clara Valley became known as the dried fruit center and the canning fruit center of the world.

The requirements for water to irrigate the orchards steadily increased year by year.

Ditch Systems

Many of the orchards were first located near the banks of the Los Gatos and other streams from which water could be diverted by ditches.

No less than five ditches diverted water out of the Los Gatos—on the west side the two Page Ditches and the Statler Ditch, and on the east side the Kirk Ditch and the Duncan Ditch. George W. Page, prominent ditch operator, claimed that he carried water by gravity through one of his laterals from the Los Gatos Creek across the Stevens Creek Road as far north as the Protestant Cemetery at Santa Clara.

In addition, there were the Masson Ditch leading out of the east side of the Capitancillos, now generally called the Guadalupe Creek; the Pioneer Ditch out of the east side of the Alamitos, more often called the Almaden, and the Auzerais Ditch out of the Penitencia.

The maximum use of ditches in the Valley for diversion of Spring run-off is said to be during the decade from 1893 to 1904, when there were from 12,000 to 14,000 acres of orchard irrigated by ditches.

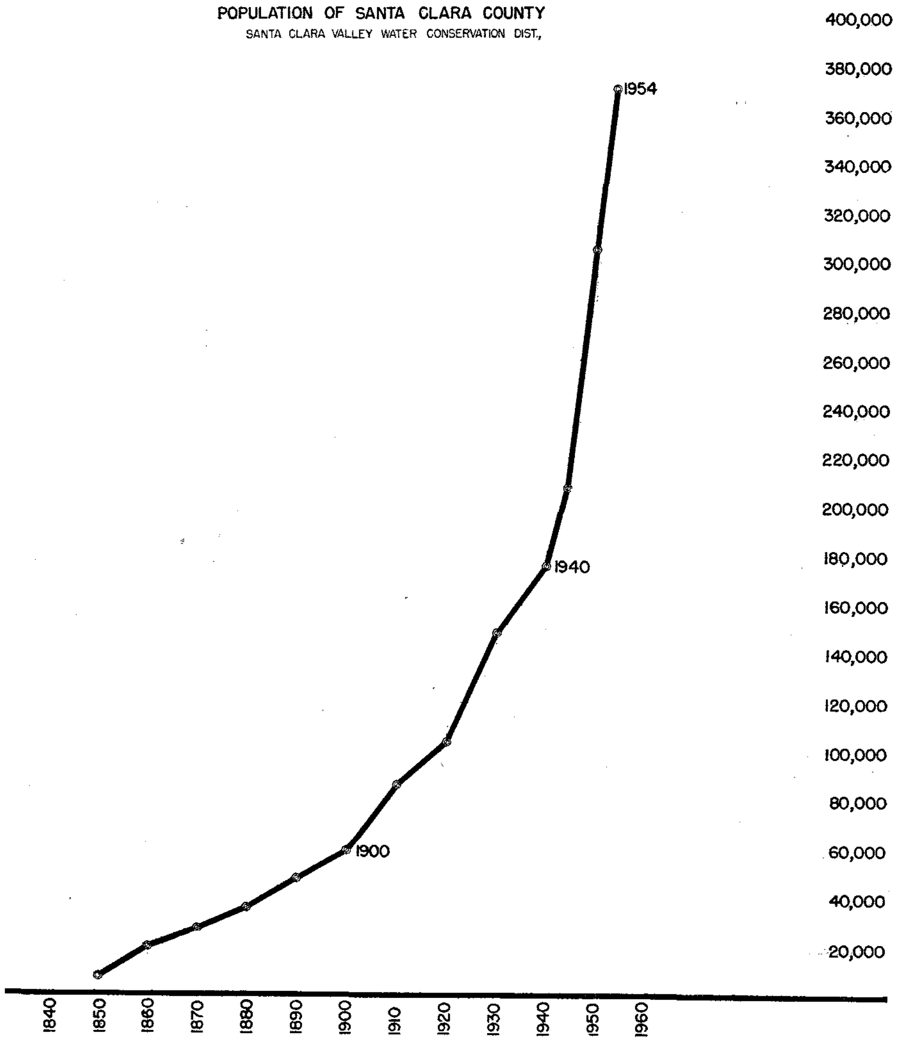
Development of Wells

The usefulness of ditches was necessarily restricted in that they could only supply water for the brief period when the streams were flowing in the Spring. They were used primarily by owners, located near creeks, who utilized winter run-off to flood their lands by means of these ditches.

The dependable supply of water, however, was from wells. Such water was available whenever the pump was started. Soon all irrigation came to depend upon wells. Today we have nearly 4,000 wells in the Valley.

Industrial Era

The most recent development in the Valley has been the phenomenal industrial growth. In addition to such gigantic plants as the Ford Motor Company and the Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation, there have been a large number of other major industries located in this Valley. Being independent of agriculture, they are having the effect of producing a healthy balance in the area's economy. Nevertheless, most industries require an assured water supply, often in large volume and usually of reliable quality. This present change in the Valley's economy will not therefore mean that our water problem will solve itself.



Falling Water Table

The increased number of wells gradually began to draw down the water plane. This underground water storage was replenished only with such water as entered it through the gravelly stream beds and around the rim of the Valley.

Soon far-sighted leaders saw the beginning of disaster. The wells were drawing upon the underground supply faster than nature could replenish it. This became particularly noticeable in the period from 1915 to 1935. An accompanying chart shows the steady decline of the water table during this period. In the 18 years between 1915 and 1933 the ground water level dropped 95 feet. This is estimated to be an average overdraft of 40,000 acre feet per year, amounting to a total of 720,000 acre feet. Pumping draft had risen by 1933 to an annual average of 134,000 acre feet. Replenishment was estimated to be 70,000 acre feet average per year. As Harry Haehl, Irrigation Engineer, pointed out, it was costing the farmers $650,000 a year more in power charges to pump from the 1935 level than it would have cost to pump from the 1915 level.

Geology of the Valley

It is claimed that the world's greatest source of fresh water is underground water. Certainly this is true in Santa Clara Valley. Underlying our Valley are interlacing gravel beds, the channels of ancient streams. These fingers of gravel are called aquifers. It is estimated that between two and three per cent of the earth underlying our Valley is sand and gravel capable of holding water.

These aquifers are connected with the surface streams in the upper portions of the Valley, but are sealed from the surface throughout most of the Valley by an impervious clay blanket. This resulted in the formation of swamps and ponds as shown on old maps of the area, indicating that surface water was unable to penetrate to the underlying gravels in these localities.

Where the Pacific Manufacturing Company's lumber yard is now located at Santa Clara was the famous Cook Pond, with water so deep that children claimed the bottom had never been found. Mr. J. J. McDaniel, an old-time settler of the Valley, claimed that cattle drank water out of a pond in July where the Alexander Hart home now stands on The Alameda. Mr. W. A. Johnston, old-time lawyer, said that as a young man he hunted ducks in the tules where the State College is today located.

Artesian Wells

In the early days artesian wells were numerous. It is claimed there were over 700 such wells in the area from San Jose northward to the Bay. Artesian wells, however, function only when there is a high underground water level to create the necessary pressure to force the water to the surface. Today, with the vast number of pumping plants in the Valley, artesian wells no longer flow. We are literally "mining" the ancient water supply. It is being depleted faster than nature restores it.

Tibbetts and Kieffer Report

The first definite step toward conserving the winter run-off was taken on June 13, 1913, when the orchardists of Campbell organized under the leadership of C. J. Ringe and L. Woodard. They then visited the site of the present Coyote Reservoir, which was exhibited to them by Frazier Reed, representing the owner, the Spring Valley Water Company.

Nothing came of the movement, however, due to the intervening of World War I. After the war, steps were taken by organizing a committee headed by Charles E. Warren. This committee obtained funds from the Supervisors, from the Chamber of Commerce and from private contributions, and employed Fred H. Tibbetts and Stephen E. Kieffer, prominent San Francisco engineers, to prepare a report on the water resources of the Valley. This report was finally completed in March, 1921. It was very exhaustive, and has ever since been regarded as the "Bible" on Santa Clara Valley water. The report pointed out that only about 38% of the winter's precipitation was percolated into the underground gravels, and that 62% was lost.

The problem, then, was to save this 62%.

Two Unsuccessful Attempts

Legislation was necessary for the creation of a District. This legislation was prepared by Mr. L. D. Bohnett, one of those interested in the Valley's water development, who had served as attorney for the State Water Commission. An Act was passed at the 1921 session, providing for a County-wide District, if the voters approved. The election, held on September 27, 1921, failed by a narrow margin of 301 votes.

A second bill was then put through the 1923 Legislature, but by this time the opposition was more militant, and the election failed by the decisive vote of 6,684 to 960.

No one then had the heart to urge water conservation—no one except Leroy Anderson. He gathered together a committee, raised some $8,000 by contributions, and experimented with percolation from sack dams. The results were so convincing that an Act was put through the 1929 Legislature which permitted a tax of 15 cents on $100 of assessed value of land but not improvements, but contained no provision for bonds.

On November 12, 1929, the present District was organized by a vote of 5,389 to 604.

Boundaries of the District

The District as originally established extended on the north to Adobe or San Antonio Creek north of Mountain View, on the east and west to the foothills, and on the south to Coyote. In 1953 some 4,000 acres of land in the eastern foothills known as the Evergreen Area were included, and in 1954 the Central Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District, extending from Coyote to Morgan Hill, comprising about 14,000 acres, was formally annexed to the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District.

Difficulties Political

As mentioned by Richard Garland Martin in his admirable thesis on the history of water development of Santa Clara Valley, the chief problem in conservation is not engineering but educating the voters. On November 17, 1931, a bond election was called for $6,000,000 to carry out the Tibbetts and Kieffer Report. It failed by a margin of nearly 7 to 1 (2,192 affirmative to 14,888 negative).

However, the public was becoming more water conscious, and in 1934 a bond issue was passed—by a margin of nearly 7 to 1—for the sum of $2,000,000. One aid to the District was the offer of the Federal Government to furnish 30% of the cost, or approximately $672,000.

In its effort to obtain this Federal grant, the District was assisted by a committee of citizens headed by John D. Crummey. Mr. Crummey made a trip to Washington in the interest of securing this allotment.

With this money were built the first six dams of the District—Coyote, Calero, Almaden, Guadalupe, Vasona, and Stevens Creek—as well as the Vasona Canal and the first section of the Coyote Canal.

As the costs exceeded the estimates, in 1936 a supplemental bond issue of $400,000 was voted.

Early Dams Described

Coyote Dam required a special technique in its construction since it straddles the active Hayward Earthquake Fault. It is very much larger than the other five, being, for example, 100 feet wide at the top as opposed to a usual width for the other dams of only 20 feet. The middle section is rolled earth, but the upstream and downstream faces both carry a heavy load of sandstone, which settles with any vibration. It serves a drainage area of 105 square miles and can store 25,000 acre feet of run-off water.

Calero Dam is located on Calero Creek where a large reservoir site exists, but almost all of its storage is taken from Alamitos (Almaden) Creek, which has no good reservoir site but a very large drainage area. Consequently, Alamitos (Almaden) Creek water is conveyed to Calero Reservoir for storage by means of a 4½-mile canal.

Almaden, Guadalupe, Vasona and Stevens Creek Dams are the ordinary type of rolled-earth structures. All of the District's dams perform the functions of storage and regulation of stream flow for percolation purposes.

The District also owns and operates the two Page Dams on the Los Gatos.

The Coyote Canal transports surplus Coyote River water from the mouth of the Coyote Canyon easterly of Madrone to the Coyote Percolating Ponds. It is unlined and has a capacity of 100 cubic feet per second.

Water from this canal is also released into the Coyote-Alamitos Canal for cross-valley transportation.

A later extension of the Coyote Canal will start delivery this year of Coyote River water to the point where pumping will bring it to the head of the new Evergreen Canal.

Lexington Reservoir

In 1931 the District had furnished the State Highway Department with a map of a possible reservoir at Lexington on the Los Gatos, with the request that the new highway from Santa Cruz to Los Gatos be constructed above the flow line. However, the new four-lane highway was built through the site of the reservoir.

In 1938, when the Southern Pacific obtained permission to abandon its route through the Los Gatos Canyon, a movement was started for building the Lexington Dam. The State was repeatedly requested to furnish, out of the gasoline tax funds, the money for rerouting the highway. As these requests, however, did not meet with favorable response, in 1947, at the suggestion of Senator Salsman (now Judge), a bill for $2,475,000 was introduced providing for an appropriation out of the general fund of the State to reroute the highway.

In the same year (1947), bonds in the amount of $2,500,000 were voted for the Lexington project. It was assumed by the Engineer that construction would be completed by the fall of 1949. However, the work of rerouting the highway was not finished until December of 1951; and until automobile traffic could be moved to the new route, no construction work on the Lexington Dam could begin.

The three years intervening between the estimate and the work saw an unprecedented rise in costs of every kind. A supplementary bond issue, of $850,000, became necessary and was accordingly authorized by the voters to complete the Lexington project.

Leroy Anderson Reservoir

While waiting for construction to begin on the Lexington Dam, the District financed, by a $3,000,000 bond issue, its largest project to date, the impressive Leroy Anderson Dam.

This dam is located on the Coyote River at the point originally suggested in the Tibbetts and Kieffer Report of 1921. The location is extremely advantageous in that it is below the confluence of the Las Animas and Coyote Creeks and their several tributaries. The dam creates a man-made lake some seven miles in length.

Need of Overbuilding

In the meantime, the District had learned the lesson that a dam should be built large enough not only for the ordinary or average flood, but for the exceptional flood of the wet year. With this in mind, Leroy Anderson Dam was constructed with a capacity of 75,000 acre feet. It was fortunate, indeed, that the reservoir had this capacity, because it was filled the first year and has carried over water for three seasons.

Coyote-Alamitos Canal

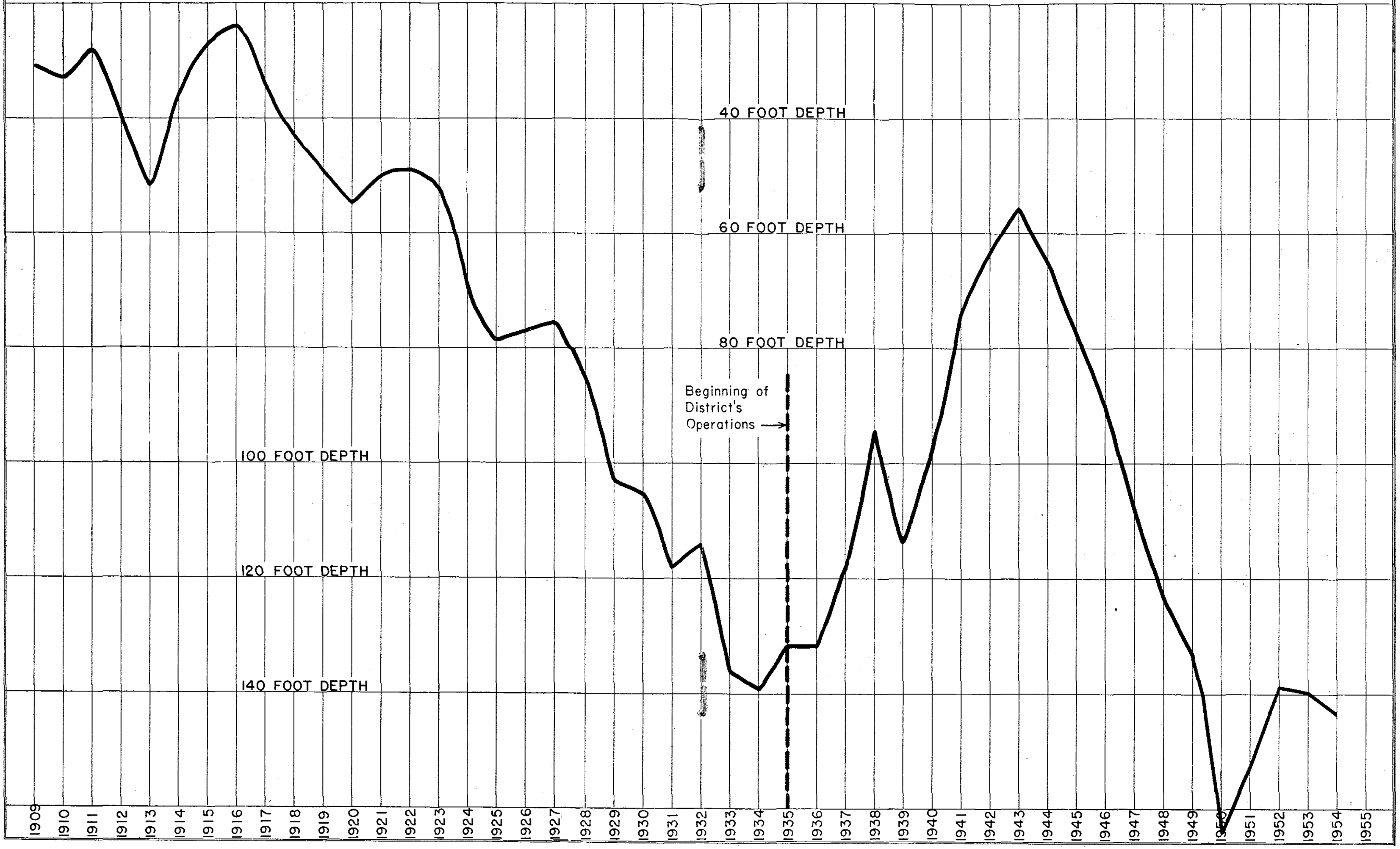
To carry surplus water from the Coyote system to the west side of the Valley, the District in 1953 constructed the Coyote-Alamitos Canal, some ten miles in length, by which Coyote water will be conveyed to the exceptionally good gravels of the Alamitos (Almaden).

Evergreen Canal

In order to furnish water to the Evergreen area, the landowners of that district, embracing some 4,000 acres, levied upon themselves a special assessment by which water from the Coyote can be elevated some 200 feet and carried in a canal for release into Silver Creek, Dry Creek, and Yerba Buena Creek.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AVERAGE DEPTH TO WATER AT END OF IRRIGATION SEASON



Major Percolation Works

One of the earliest structures of the District is a low (8 feet high) removable flashboard dam which collects natural or storage flow in the Coyote River just north of Coyote and spreads it over a porous area of the river bed. The pond thus created is called the Coyote Percolation Pond and the dam is in efficient operation today.

The District's Alamitos Percolation Ponds are formed by a six-foot high removable flashboard dam constructed in 1939 at the junction of the Alamitos and Guadalupe Creeks. Prior thereto, the water had been stilled and spread by the simple device of wire filled with gravel, called "sausage dams," and placed across the stream beds. These ponds now receive Coyote River water delivered by the Coyote-Alamitos Canal.

One of the most efficient percolation areas in the District is its Penitencia Percolation Ponds. These are a long series of small ponds constructed on an abandoned rail bed paralleling Penitencia Creek just east of Berryessa.

The District has tentative plans for a dam on the Penitencia to augment the percolation which would supply storage and have the added value of flood control.

Other minor percolation facilities are spread throughout the Valley.

The District's Work

The District operates all of its structures for one object alone: that is, to capture that 62% of the Valley's precious rainfall which would otherwise waste into the Bay, and to put this water into the underground gravels, thus raising the general water level.

The reservoirs are very popular for fishing, boating, swimming and picnicking, but the District's primary duty is to get the water underground as soon as possible.

How this is done is not always fully understood.

By far the major water supply for all purposes in the Valley is derived from wells. These wells tap the water stored in the many interlaced channels of porous gravelly material laid down in early geological times. As irrigation has intensified with the production of row crops, as population has increased to a density once undreamed of, and as industries have moved into our area, the pumping of water from this vast underground storage has increased enormously, and vastly exceeded the normal recharge by rainfall.

The porous storage beds or aquifers are for the most part not open and exposed, but lie under an impervious layer of clay. In order to put water underground, it is necessary to find areas in the Valley where the deposits of porous material touch the surface. These are developed as "percolation beds": so-called because water retained and spread upon them will sink down or percolate into the subsurface aquifers. If enough water finds its way back into the aquifers to make up for or exceed the withdrawal by pumping, the well levels will remain the same, or gradually rise. This is the goal of the District's work.

Policy of the District

The Board of Directors has unanimously adopted the policy that the dams, the auxiliary canals and the percolation beds have been the product of the taxes of the entire District; that the water saved by them should be transported and percolated equitably so that the benefits will be obtained by each and every part of the District; that the waters stored are flood waters which would otherwise be wasted into the sea, and having been saved by the efforts of the entire District the benefits should be distributed according to the needs of the entire District.

Result of District Operations

The success of the District's first operations, beginning in 1934, was immediately apparent. Instead of continuing its disastrous drop, the average ground water level rose (net) 44 feet in seven years.

A detailed analysis of hydrographic data made at the end of the 1944-45 season showed that if the District had not existed, the Valley would have suffered a net drop in water level of 10 feet instead of the net rise of 44 feet which actually occurred.

The vast amount of water put underground by the District between the winters of 1935 and 1941-42 caused the well under the First National Bank in San Jose to rise 80 feet. As a result the well overflowed May 1, 1942.

Recent Water Level Drop

In the period between 1944 and 1954, the demands on ground water supply, caused by our unprecedented population increases, changes in agricultural use and industrial expansion, have again outrun replacement. The situation has been made materially worse, of course, by a series of dry years. The plight of the Valley if the District had not existed would now be unimaginable. But even with all the structures of the District operating to conserve every possible drop of rainfall, and in spite of the two newest dams, the water level of the Valley has continued to drop. This is in contrast to the rise effected between 1935 and 1944.

It is generally recognized that the District cannot rest on its laurels, but must continually seek additional water until the danger of a mined-out supply is past.

Future Water

It is estimated by the State Division of Water Resources, in its Bulletin No. 7, that Santa Clara Valley will ultimately require 184,000 acre feet of water annually, in addition to its present resources.

Where will this water come from?

Some of it will be available from the Hetch Hetchy system. This system, in addition to its pipe-line under the Bay, now has a pipe-line extending around by Milpitas and Sunnyvale. It crosses our Valley about 6 miles north of San Jose. Under the provisions of the Raker Act, Hetch Hetchy water is available, not for irrigation purposes, but for domestic and industrial, to public districts and municipalities. One of these public districts now using water to supply its enormously expanding demand is the Milpitas County Water District. Also the cities of Sunnyvale, Mountain View, and Palo Alto have contracts with San Francisco whereby they can purchase water when the supply from their own local wells is insufficient.

The Uvas Project

Under a pending arrangement with the South Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District, the North District will be entitled to 60% of the waters stored in a proposed reservoir on the Uvas upon paying 60% of the cost. The plan is to carry our District's share of the water northward in a syphon under the Llagas Creek and thence discharge it either in the Coyote River, or by a pumping lift store it in the Calero Reservoir.

Delta-Mendota Water

In 1948, a delegation of Californians, including the attorney for this District, succeeded in having a bill passed in Congress, introduced by Congressman Engle and sponsored by Congressmen Miller and Anderson to provide that the Federal Department of the Interior should investigate the feasibility of routes for the transference of water to this Valley from the Delta-Mendota Canal. These routes could be either by way of Pacheco Pass or the Altamont Pass. The source of this water would be the comingled flow of the (diverted) Trinity River, the American River and the Feather River, and other Sacramento tributaries. In the event that a tunnel be driven through Pacheco Pass to accommodate trucks and other highway traffic, cooperation by water authorities with the highway authorities should be able to greatly reduce the cost of a conduit for bringing Delta-Mendota water to Santa Clara Valley.

Time, economic considerations, and engineering will determine which of the outside sources is most feasible.

Tax Base

Funds required by the District for maintenance and operation of its facilities as well as for meeting interest and principal on its outstanding bonds are derived from an annual tax on the land, exclusive of improvements, within its boundaries.

The assessed valuation of the land alone in the District as of June 30th, 1954, but without including the newly-annexed Central District, is $98,703,935.00.

The phenomenal rise in land value in our Valley may be seen by comparing the above figures with the assessed value of land alone within the District for the first fiscal year of its life, 1930. That value was $39,140,765.00.

Government of the District

The District is governed by a Board of seven Directors, elected biennially for four-year terms from their respective divisions.

Its present Board of Directors consists of the following:

Division I —Herman Gerdts
Division II —J. E. Wiesendanger
Division III —Martin J. Spangler
Division IV —Lloyd O. Wilcox
Division V —Harry G. Mitchell
Division VI —Reginald L. Parry (President)
Division VII—S. W. Pfeifle

Previous members have been

S. D. Farrington
Leroy Anderson
R. P. VanOrden
J. Fred Holthouse
Edgar A. Jackson
J. A. Fair
C. D. Cavallaro
Ralph F. Simons
S. F. Noethig
T. T. Tourtillott
C. G. Spargur
Frank L. Steindorf

Its original Engineer, Mr. Fred H. Tibbetts, began service with the District in 1929, and passed away in 1938. His ashes lie at the control gate of the Coyote Dam. He was succeeded in 1938 by G. Walter Hunt, who acted as District Engineer until 1954. Mr. Hunt, in turn, was succeeded by J. Robert Roll, the present Engineer.

The District's attorney since its organization has been Herbert C. Jones.

Rights of Way

The District began originally with a board of three realtors to negotiate for the lands required for reservoirs and canals. This board consisted of Frazier O. Reed, W. L. Atkinson and Arthur Moore.

This entire committee functioned in the years 1934-35 and immediately thereafter in acquiring lands for the five original reservoirs.

It early became apparent, however, that the District needed the constant services of a man thoroughly familiar with condemnation proceedings. Not only were lands to be acquired, but policies to be decided upon. Frequent contact was necessary with landowners.

The District then decided to rely upon the services of Mr. Reed. Too much credit cannot be given for the valuable work he has performed for the people of the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District in the money he has saved for the taxpayers, and the wisdom of the policies he has advised. He insisted from the beginning that a "yardstick" had to be used in acquiring lands. That is to say, the same price should be paid for similar lands. Although never trained as an engineer, he possesses rare engineering skill, and has been of great aid to the District.

Major Legal Problems

In addition to the legislation for the original organization of the District in 1929, and the amendment of such legislation in 1931 so as to permit bond issues, the District at the very beginning of its acquisition of properties was confronted with the fact that unlike the Highway Department and certain other public agencies, it could not take immediate possession upon depositing in court an amount fixed by the judge. The result was that the District found it practically impossible to negotiate with the landowners. Therefore, the attorney for the District, who was then still a member of the California Senate, proposed a Constitutional Amendment in the 1933 session which allowed the District this right of immediate possession. A State-wide campaign was required on the part of the District for the adoption of this amendment at the election in November, 1934. By securing the aid of farm groups, irrigationists, and other friends of the project, this amendment to the Constitution was adopted. It was a major achievement, for without its adoption the construction of the District's projects would have undoubtedly been deferred many years.

Later, in 1953, an amendment was secured to the Water Conservation District Act increasing the amount available for the general fund from 15 cents on the $100 of assessed valuation of land to 25 cents on the $100 of assessed valuation. With the increased operating expenses of the District this amendment likewise was of major importance.

In all these legislative campaigns and its numerous bond issues, the District has had the powerful support of the press of the District, headed by the *San Jose Mercury* and the *San Jose Evening News.*

The following table will give the amount of water stored in the District's respective reservoirs:

RESERVOIR STORAGE IN ACRE FEET

Year	Coyote	Calero	Almaden	Guadalupe	Stevens Creek	Lexington	Leroy Anderson
1936	31,500	3,433	1,958	3,075	1,900		
1937	30,000	8,350	2,000	3,300	4,000		
1938	25,500	9,500	2,000	3,500	4,000		
1939	5,450	731	300	250	150		
1940	24,560	9,275	2,000	3,580	4,000		
1941	24,560	9,200	2,111	3,527	4,000		
1942	25,957	9,247	2,054	3,548	4,080		
1943	25,894	9,182	2,072	3,510	4,022		
1944	26,216	5,821	1,942	2,569	2,185		
1945	26,089	*	*	161	4,009		
1946	18,379	3,246	1,766	1,358	4,000		
1947	1,578	329	207	*	885		
1948	823	*	736	309	269		
1949	10,385	2,897	2,000	2,108	2,530		
1950	17,408	825	440	467	1,158		
1951	20,748	7,142	788	2,940	4,000		20,379
1952	26,302	9,213	2,050	3,506	4,000		75,000
1953	19,122	4,673	932	1,770	4,000	9,344	*
Totals:	359,471	93,064	25,365	39,478	53,188	9,344	95,379

*No runoff. Grand Total: 675,280

The foregoing serves as a brief account of the work of the District for the past twenty-five years, the water it has conserved and the possible sources of additional water to meet our future needs.

It will be seen that so long as population increases and industries continue to expand in this Valley, just so long will we be confronted with a continuing crisis in relation to the water supply and just so long must we engage in a continuing program to make the maximum possible use of our local supply, and a never-ending search for new water.

Thus, the future task of the District will be two-fold:

1. To utilize our local supply to the utmost by conserving, where practicable, all flood waste yet uncaptured. This applies particularly to waters of the Uvas. Other projects under consideration include: a dam on the Penitencia, a second dam on Stevens Creek, a second dam on the Guadalupe, and perhaps dams on the Saratoga, San Tomas and Calabazas Creeks.

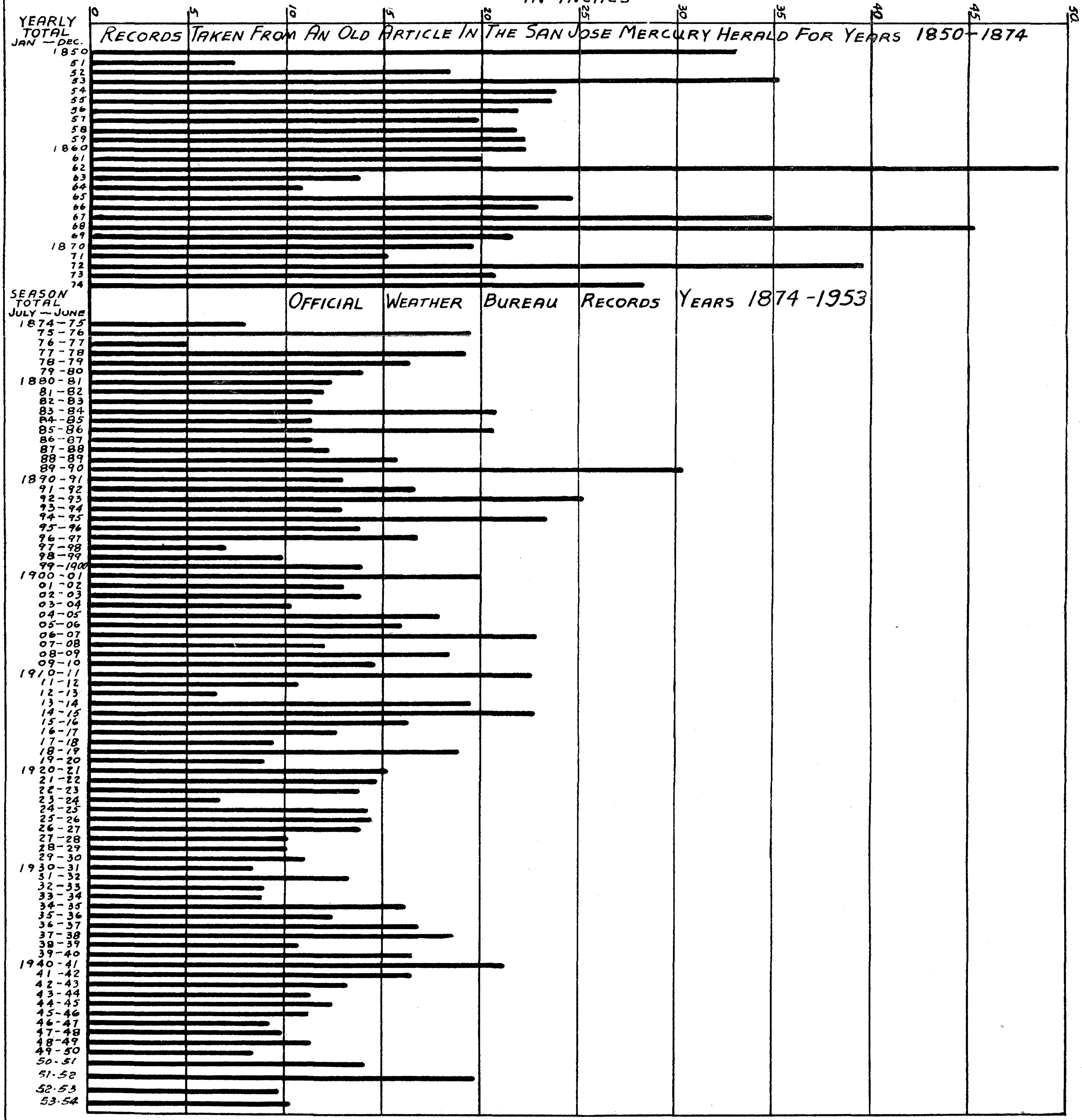
2. But since it is obvious, as pointed out by the State Engineer that all local sources combined are going to be wholly inadequate for our future needs, our major task will be the securing of a sufficient outside source.

With some of its most difficult and important work lying in the future, it will be the endeavor of, and challenge to, Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District to make its next twenty-five years as productive as those just ended in its work of conserving "Water for the Valley."

HERBERT C. JONES

San Jose, California
November 12, 1954

RAINFALL FIGURES FOR THE CITY OF SAN JOSE CALIFORNIA
1850 — 1954
IN INCHES



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